Condition of International Airports in the Country

4970. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the international airports in the country are in very bad shape causing disgrace to the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for this shabby maintenance of these airports;

(c) what action is being taken against the defaulting officials in charge of the maintenance of these airports; and

(d) what steps are being taken to improve the conditions of these airports *vis-a-vis* the country's image?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to maintain a high standard of facilities at the international airports. However, congestion due to bunching of flights is a problem. Efforts are made to enhance the terminal capacity in the short-term by shifting / re- arranging some of the facilities to reduce congestion. A number of measures are being taken to improve the standard of service and facilities at international airports like expansion of terminal areas, provision of lengthy conveyors and aerobridges and passenger facilitation etc. In the long term perspective, to bring the standard of services at par with international standards, to improve management culture, efficiency and overall productivity, to unlock the potential for economic benefits arising out of well-managed airports and to attract private investment required for achieving these objectives, Government has decided to restructure the airports of Airports Authority of India as and when found suitable through long term lease. At present, airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata have been taken up for this exercise.

Compensation to villagers displaced due to Shamshabad Airport

4971. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether villagers displaced from the proposed international airport at Shamshabad, Andhra Pradesh are demanding compensation and proper rehabilitation from authorities;

(b) whether the villagers are demanding their lands back which has been acquired for construction of the airport; and